THE WEEKLY NATIONAL INTELLIGENCER.

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EXTRACT OF A LETTER From Baron ALEXANDER DE HUMBOLDT to 'DR. T. G. FLUGEL, at Leipsic. [THANSLATED FROM THE GERMAN.]

I hasten, my respected Doctor, to express to you my best thanks, in a few lines only, (being engaged since yesterday in all the horrors of a removal from Potsdam to Berlin,) for the very interestjourney of EMORY, and for GILLISS's notices on ermination of the parallax in Chili and on conomical longitude of Washington. I had written specially to New York for Emory's

For an antediluvian like me, who is attached with his whole soul to the New Continent, through the color of his opinions and his knowledge of the it is refreshing and gratifying to follow the rapid

and magnificent development of scientific spirit in the United States, and to have to acknowledge the participation of the Government in a three years' expedition to Chili, undertaken because a Professor in Marburg desires it, and nobody listens to him in

We are indebted for excellent labors in hypsometry, astronomy, botany, and geognosy, to Fremont, Emory, Wislizenus, Lieuts. Abert and BACHE, of the fine coast survey, and to the circumnavigation of CHARLES WILKES.

In my "Aspects of Nature," vol. 11, pp. 388-392, I have used earnest language on the possibility of an oceanic canal over the Isthmus of Panama. May those words at last find an echo in North America, and be diffused through the newspapers. They can be read in English in Mrs. Sabine's translation of Humboldt's "Aspects of Nature," vol. 11, p. 319, "Points in which the examination has been neglected." With great respect, I am your most obedient,

A. HUMBOLDT. BERLIN, DEC. 22, 1849.

FROM THE "ASPECTS OF NATURE," VOL. 11, P. 319. coast of the New Continent by the United States of North America, and the report of the abundance of gold in New California, (now called Upper California,) have rendered tween the Atlantic States and the regions of the West through the Isthmus of Panama, I feel it my duty to call atto the shores of the Pacific, which was shown by the natives to Alonso Martin de Don Berito, is in the eastern part of the Isthmus, and led to the Golfo de San Miguel. We know that Culumbus (Vida del Amirante por Don Fernando Colon, cap. 90) sought for an "estrecho de tierra firmë;" and in the official documents which we possess of the years 1505 and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1514, mention and 1507, and especially 1514, mention is made of the deciral firme and 1507, and especially 1 sired "opening" (abertura) and of the pass (passo) which render it impossible that there should be any connexion by ches to preserve quiet, and the American Governm for more than forty years been occupied with the subject of the means of communication between the two seas, I have constantly, both in my printed works and in the different memoirs which with honorable confidence the Free States of Spanish America have requested me to furnish, urged that the Isthmus should be examined hypsometrically throughout its entire length, and more especially where in Darien and in the inhospitable former Provincia de Biruguete, it joins the continent of South America, and where, between the Atrato and the Bay'of Cupics, (on the shore of the Pacific,) the mountain chain of the Isthmus almost entirely disappears. (See in my Atlas geographique et physique de la Nouvelle Espagne, pl. 1v.; in the Atlas de la Relation historique, pl. xx11 and XXIII; Voyage aux Régions équinoniales du Nouveau Continent, T. 111, p. 117-154; and Essai politique sur le Ragaume de la Nouvelle Espagne, T. 1, 2d edit. 1825, p.

General Bolivar, at my request, caused an exact levelling of the Is house between Panama and the mouth of the Ric Chagres to be made in 1828 and 1829, by Lloyd and Falmarc. (Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of Lon don for the year 1830, p. 59-68.) Other measurements have since been executed by accomplished and experienced French engineers, and projects have been formed for canals and railways with locks and tunnels, but always in the direction of a meridian between Porto Bello and Panama, or more to the west, towards Chagres and Cruces. Thus the most important points of the eastern and southeastern part of the Isthmus have remained unexamined on both shores! So long as this part is not examined geographically, by means of exact but easily attained determinations of latitude and longitude, by nometers as well as hypsometrically, in the confirmation of the surface by barometric measurements of elevation; se long I consider that the statement I have repeatedly made, and which I now repeat in 1849, will still be true, viz : "That it is as yet unproved and quite premature to pronounce that the Isthmus does not admit of the formation of an Oceanic Canal, (i. e. a canal with fewer locks than the Caledonian Canal,) permitting at all seasons the passage of the same sea-going ships between New York and Liverpool, on the one hand, and Chili and California on the other. On the Atlantic side (according to examinations which the

Direccion of the Deposito hidrografico of Madrid have entered on their mens since 1809) the Ensenada de Mandings netrated so deeply towards the south that it appears to be penetrated so deeply towards the south that it appears to be only four or five German geographical miles, fifteen to an equatorial degree, (i. e. 16 or 20 English geographical miles, ) from the coast of the Pacific on the east of Panama. On the Pacific side the Isthmus is almost equally indented by the deep Golfo de San Miguel, into which the Rio Tuyra falls, with its tributary river the Chuchungue, (Churhurnague.) This last named stream, in the upper part of its course, approaches within 16 English geographical miles of the Atlanic side of the Is hmus to the west of Cape Tiburon. For more than twenty years I have had inquiries made from me on the subject of the problem of the Isthmus of Panama, by associations desirous of employing considerable pecuniary means, but the simple advice which I have given has never followed. Every scientifically educated engineer knows that between the tropics, (even without corresponding observa-tions,) good barometric measurements (the horary variations taken into account) afford results which are well asured to be less than from 70 to 90 French or 75 to 96 Engat the fixed stations. Let that part be particularly ex-ed where, near the continent of South America, the rating mountain ridge sinks into hills. Seeing the im ce of the subject to the great commerce of the world, search ought not, as hitherto, to be restricted to a limited A great and comprehensive work, which sha I include the le castern port of the Istimus, and which will be equally all for every possible kind of operation, for canal or for ray, can alone decide the much discussed problem either

from time to time, and from day to day. This very proposi- out of doors, is the suggestion that the great road from siderations which operated upon the committee. One was siderations which operated upon the committee. One was to deviate as little from what we supposed to be the eastern boundary of New Mexico, as possible. I was extremely desirous myself that El Paso should have been retained as the southern boundary of Texas and the southern boundary of the point of t of New Mexico, believing that that was the point of the ancient boundary of New Mexico. I still think so, and I should still myself prefer it. But, sir, I yielded, as the reach their seat of government. These people would thus be members of the Senate know, finally to the adoption of a line twenty miles above El Paso, and thence to the Indian territory. That change was made for this purpose: it was said that there were some settlements between El Paso tion, and near the road which emigrants to California now take through Texas, and being almost free from the jurisdiction of Santa Fe, Indians and bad men would congregate -opinion varying as to the precise extent—no water whatever is to be obtained, and hence it is called the Pass of Death; myself—to the adoption of a point twenty miles above El

Now, what is it proposed to do? El Paso is about 320 bout 361°, nearly the line mentioned in the annexation resolutions, would be just 410. Now it is proposed by this the Rio Grande—that is to say, to reduce  $4\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ . The inevitable effect of that would be to diminish, very materially, the pecuniary equivalent which it is proposed to offer to Texas for the surrender of territory. It gives her land which she does not want, and it takes away from ment heretofore, and now I am told that there is a very large her money which she does want, and a portion of which we are bound to give. Now, sir, I do hope my friend from Mississippi will waive this amendment. This is a matter which was fully considered, amply considered in the communication is the other way, across. So far as the where is it to end? I know that some gentlemen from Texas or Texas, it amounts to little or nothing. The land is all are desirous of this line 34°, and perhaps, if I were in their taken up in titles. There is a population of about four hunplace, I might find myself in the same position as them, want-ing to receive all the money and land I could get; but, after full and some of the grants of land run back to a very old date ment of Texas, and took up the subject, considered it fully, and agreed upon this point. Now, why disturb it? If you begin to disturb it, where is it to end? Besides, these are but proposals to Texas. She can reject and accept the subjects are but proposals to Texas. She can reject and accept the subjects are but proposals to Texas. She can reject and accept the subjects are but proposals to Texas. She can reject and accept the subjects are but proposals to Texas. roposals to Texas. She can reject and accept them as she leases. I hope, therefore, that if there is any change whatever in that line from the point twenty miles above El Paso, it will be rather to bring the line down to El Paso than to carry it up, the effect of which, I am convinced, would be inious to Texas, giving her what she does not want, and disturbing what I regard as the ancient limits of the province which I have been desirous to preserve intact. The next smendment which the Senator from Mississippi

rights unimpaired, and why was it limited to the Govern-ment of the United States? Because we were the parties acting, proposing, making overtures. The other party could not be afficied, if it chose to reject our proposals, but we might by possibility have had our right impaired, and there-fore it was that I put in the proviso that if the terms proposed o Texas were not acceded to, nothing should be so conas to impair the rights of the United States. But, sir, I have no objection to the amendment. It is not necessary, in my

pinion, but still I have no objection to it. With regard to the third amendment, I really think done. What has the committee proposed? What the committee has proposed is to adopt the principle of non-intervention in New Mexico, leaving the state of law there as it exists, merely declaring that slavery shall not be admitted or excluded. Is not that sufficient? Besides that, what necestory force of the resolution of annexation? What will be the effect of it? No practical proposition is made, but merely to put an abstract assertion in this bill of a principle which is already sufficiently secured by the action of Congress upon it heretoforc. Well, sir, you cannot detach New Mexico from Texas, and leave things as if they were not separated and dissevered. That seems to be the object of the amendment. Do you want to preserve the right of the slaveholder to carry his slaves there: why, if it exists by law, you have that right. You do not want a declaration that he shall have that right against law and fact. No, you do not want that. Then, if he has got the right, the right remains secured to him,

DEBATE IN THE SENATE.

THE COMPROMISE BILL.

THE COMPROMISE BILL.

The second of the Whole, metabolic delicity in the late in the shape of the property in I have been an elegistration of the second of the Whole, metabolic delicity in the late in income the whole, metabolic delicity in the late in income the whole in the late of the whole in the late of the whole in the late of the late of the whole in the late of the late

Moxico, was before us; we considered it, discussed it, decided the point where this road will cross. It would be unreasonable against it, and determined on a line twenty miles above Et to suppose that these people would be desirous of forming any Paso, and thence across to the Indian territory. I will not connexion with Santa Fe. This is altogether a mistake; but take up the time of the Senate, to go into the various conit is not material to go into it now. Sometimes I am told these

States, or Santa Fe, in that respect.

Mr. DAYTON. I understand the Senator to say that the

anted to divide with her, and giving her twenty miles above populous county. What is the county is El Paso? and what is the population? I have understood that the section of country intervening between it and the populous part of Texas was very sparsely populated, if popu-ted at all. Mr. RUSK. There is a portion of the county of El Pas

hat is populous, and a portion of it that is not populous.

Mr. DAYTON. But how of the country below El Paso

s that a populous part of Texas?

Mr. RUSK. That is a difficult question to answer. There ply considered in the com-rb the result of their labors value of this territory is concerned, either to the

ration by the Committee of Thirteen, personally I felt a strong inclination to have the point of departure fixed at or

Mr. RUSK. Will the Senator allow me? I take issue

with him on that point. It has not been recognised as the The next smendment which the Senator from Mississippi proposes, as I said, is in my opinion unnecessary, but at the same time I have no objection to it as I find it in the printed amendment, though sometimes the printed copy and the manuscript are not exactly the same. The amendment reads in these words:

"Provided, That nothing in this act contained shall be so construed as in any manner to impair the rights of the State of Texas to all the territory claimed by her, in the event that the Rio Grande, near or opposite to El Paso, and above it for the terms proposed to said State of Texas should not be accepted."

Mr. KING. The main object we had in view was to settle, as far as practicable, the disputed boundary of Texas. It was upon information derived from miles below the Pass. It was upon information derived from this source, as well as maps and general representation, that I spoke. I think such was the impression generally of the committee. It was represented to the committee that there is a settlement of a considerable population on the east side of the Rio Grande, near or opposite to El Paso, and above it for several miles towards the desert, or Journey of Death. That desert, as far as I could collect information from the very imperfect maps before us, and personal representations.

Wr. KING. The main object we had in view was to settle, as far as practicable, the disputed boundary of Texas. That was one great object. It certainly was so. I enter-tained an opinion very different from many others as to the right of Texas to the boundary claimed. My opinion was thus one great object. It certainly was so. I enter-tained an opinion very different from many others as to the right of Texas to the boundary claimed. My opinion was thus the claim of Texas could not be successfully controvered. But we do not shut our eyes to the fact that it was a disputed boundary. Their object was to prevent, if possible, any collision between the people of New Mexico, and the authorities of Texas, which was threatened, and which Well, sir, I thought of that. There is a provise in the very imperient maps before us, and personal representations, bill retaining to the Government of the United States all its was from nine to thirty miles from El Paso. It is now reprerights unimpaired, and why was it limited to the Government of the United States? Because we were the parties act.

Upon a view of the whole of these conflicting and incompati-Upon a view of the whole of these conflicting and incompau-ble statements and representations, the information, even at this moment, must be regarded as unreliable and very unsa-tisfactory. With the view, however, that this population, re-presented as residing on the east side of the Rio Grands near that I insisted that we should not run any line that would cut that I insisted that we should not run any line that would cut she had extended her laws and jurisdiction in fact over the county of El Paso, it was agreed, at first, to fix the point of county of El Paso, it was agreed, at first, to fix the point of departure from the Rio Grande, ten miles above the Pass, and upon further consideration, to make assurance doubly sure, it was agreed to fix it twenty miles in a straight line above the middle of the Pass. It seemed to be well understood that twenty miles would include the whole of that population. This consideration, together with an additional one, determined the committee, as I suppose—it certainly regulated my mined the committee, as I suppose—it certainly regulated my mined the committee, as I suppose—it certainly regulated my mined the committee, as I suppose—it certainly regulated my mined the committee, as I suppose—it certainly regulated my mined the committee, as I suppose—it certainly regulated my mined the committee, as I suppose—it certainly regulated my mined the committee, as I suppose—it certainly regulated my mined the committee, as I suppose—it certainly regulated my mined the committee with the portion of New Mexico where allode is, that in all probability, at no remote period, there may be a southern line of communication across the continent from the waters of the Gulf to the Pacific, by railroad or otherwise; and that El Paso will be found the easiest and hoped that if it should be ascertained during the discussion that

his way up the course of the stream. The grass coarse and salt, and wood by culinary purposes with difficulty ob-

New York, or Penrsylvania and Virginia, it would be considered utterly worthless, and remain uninhabited, unless by cres to keep alive one black-snake. As to this country ever

turned out, on inquiry, that for ninety or a hundred miles — opinion varying as to the precise extent—no water whatever is to be obtained, and hence it is called the Pass of Death; but in point of fact, it is a bowling-green, covered with grass the precise of the precise extent—no water whatever is to be obtained, and hence it is called the Pass of Death; but in point of fact, it is a bowling-green, covered with grass of the precise extent—no water whatever is obtained and burnt down their houses, but that did no shall not argue it now. But, whether I am right or wrong, I differ entirely with the Senator from Kentucky on this point. I soldiers went and burnt down their houses, but that did no shall not argue it now. But, whether I am right or wrong, I differ entirely with the Senator from Kentucky on this point. I consider the whole matter as of no practical importance. but in point of fact, it is a bowling-green, covered with grass
—the grass of the prairie—with no mountains on it, or hills of
any considerable extent, and upon this is the great commercial thoroughfare from Santa Fe to Chihuahua and the
provinces below it. Finally, however, in consequence of the
alleged antipathy of the inhabitants immediately above El
Paso, and within thirty miles of it, to be connected with New
Mexico, and their desire to be attached to Texas, we yielded
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in the provinces below it. Finally, however, in consequence of the
alleged antipathy of the inhabitants immediately above El
Paso, and within thirty miles of it, to be connected with New
Mexico, and their desire to be attached to Texas, we yielded
concerned, it will be of no benefit to Texas, or the United
the provinces below it. Finally, however, in consequence of the
attended on the same situation, and bordering close upon Texas; and, so far as the
beginaing, exist; abolitionism, free-soilism, and all the rest
to the contrary notwithstanding. But is New Mexico, if a
proprietor with fifty or a hundred hands were there, he and
the provinces below it. Finally, however, in consequence of the
ation, and bordering close upon Texas; and, so far as the
matter of considere the whole matter as of no practical importance.
Slavery never can, never can, never can, never can dest, and I
consider the whole matter as of no practical importance.
Slavery never can, never can, never can, never can, never can, ever will got desolved the whole matter as of no practical importance.
S they must soon remove, or be supported by other means than their labor. If neither removal could be accomplished nor extraneous support could be obtained, if the slaves would not aso, giving to Texas El Paso itself, which New Mexico section of country below El Paso borders on Texas and en a run away from the master, he would run away from his Slave labor can be of no value there. It can never go there. Therefore, I think the proposed amendment wholly unnecessary, and adhere to the bill, in this respect, as re-

orted.

Mr. RUSK. I desire a word of explanation. I think the Senator from North Carolina is not only a little confused in his geographical notions, but also that he has received very ormation in regard to the character of the so bont El Paso. The honorable Senator has been misled. Until very recently there has been no commun There is a point upon the Rio Grande called Paso del Norte : there is also a county of El Paso, which com sences some miles below that point and runs up some sixty miles above it. Now, with regard to the character of the soil, it is a matter of no consequence to this discussion, only as indicating the character of the country generally. I have quently, looking out for Indians more than for water or good land, and I can tell the Senator that the notes of the country taken under such circumstances are not much to be relied or I have gone over a country searching for Indians, or when I knew that Indians were searching for me, and I have thought it a poor country; and I have afterwards gone over the san ountry when there were no Indians after me, and thought i a very fine country. [A laugh.] Perhaps if the Senator from North Carolina had gone out there he would have made an examination in the face of his red brethren of the forest, but I do not think that at this day an explorer going from San Antonio to El Paso could say there was no water. Mr. MANGUM. Will the Senator allow me to correct

him? I gather my information from an exploration made last fall under the orders of the Government by engineers appoint

ed to lay out a military route.

Mr. KING. The main object we had in view was to s nature of the country that it would not be of very great im object. I was prepared to go in favor of procuring of the State of Texas, by purchase, at a reasonable compensation—although I had no doubt of her title—such a portion as would settle the two questions permeable. off any portion in which there were actual settlers in the val business is transacted.

otherwise; and that El Paso will be found the easiest and most practicable route to pass the mountains to reach the head waters of the Gila, and that Texas ought very properly to retain possession and jurisdiction up to and as far over the Pass as the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo will justify. But since that time I have had occasion to look through a very interesting manuscript, for which the Senate has called on the Department this morning, and the main fact upon which it was determined to fix the point of departure from the Rio Grande twenty miles above the Pass, turns out to be wholly unfounded, and exactly the reverse of the understanding of the committee. I refer to the report of Captain French. It which terminates between 33° and 34° north latitude, no set-

bama has correctly stated what occurred before the committee The first idea was El Paso, very much pressed, and anxiously pressed by me. The next idea was to go just above El Paso, so as to leave El Paso to Texas, and to begin there. Then there was some talk of these inhabitants who could not get to Santa Fe, and could get, by going twice the distance, to Austin, the seat of government of Texas. Then we proposed ten miles; then twenty; and then twenty miles in a straight line was proposed, instead of with the meandering of the river. The Senator from Alabama will recollect that the committee had no satisfactory information concerning the people of this country, or their disposition to be annexed to one party or the other. I beg to call the attention of the Senate to the difference between the positions of Texas and New Mexico. Texas has her two Senators upon this floor entirely disposed, in negotiating for their State, to get all they can. I make no reproach against them for it, but the information which I get from the Delegate from that Territory, is very different from that which we derive from the Senators formation of any discoveries—slave labor would be not only in not productive, but to the proprietor ruinous. In respect to the proposed amendment to fix 34 degrees north latitude as the point of departure, I cannot vote for it. I adhere to my first impression, that just north of El Paso is the proper point of departure.

If no Texas, acting as both parties do, on information given them, rather than upon personal knowledge. Now, in point of fact, I understand that the bulk of the inhabitants are twenty miles above El Paso, although there may be one or twenty miles above for it. I adhere to my first impression, that just north of El Paso is the proper point of departure. from Texas, acting as both parties do, on information given As to the other amendment, that the territory ceded by Perhaps—is it of any importance whether there are a few in-Texas shall remain in the same plight as to slavery up to habitants above or below the line? Now, we do not hear as he no doubt believes, that they desire to be uttached to Texas. The Delegate from New Mexico behind me states lirectly the reverse.

Mr. RUSK. Has he ever been there?

Mr. CLAY. Yes. He has been over the whole road from Santa Fé to El Paso, and has letters in his possession recently written, representing that the inhabitants do not want to be joined to Texas. How, then, are we to act in this state of uncertainty and absence of information? But look at the fact. The fact is, that the inhabitants proposed to be annexed to Texas are not less than seven hundred miles from their seat of government, and I really cannot see how they can get there. How are these few inhabitants, whom it is so desirous to attach to Texas and not to New Mexico, to travel to their seat of government, which will be twice the distance off?

The honorable Senator from Texas speaks of some inaccessible valley. Well, if Santa Fé is inaccessible and difficult

o be got at, the same objection applies to Austin. Besides that, I am told that there is a fine natural road, a great com mercial highway, one of the finest commercial roads in the United States, and the only difficulty is the want of water, and the caravans with merchandise have no difficulty in supplying themselves with water. Besides, wells can be sunk Why, I have had half a dozen ponds made at Ashland, and we have hundreds and thousands of them in Kentucky, and as settlements fill up and population increases, there will be no difficulty in forming depois of water for the accommodation of travellers over these ninety or one hundred miles of fine natural highway, without any obstruction of mountains or even

in other words, to leave but two and a half degrees. As I have already stated, a much less amount of pecuniary equivalent must be offered to Texas than if the line remains where fixed by the committee. There may be a few inhabitants left out, but according to the present information we possess it would

I repeat that the fixation of this line between New Mexico and Texas, giving to Texas, as we propose to do, El Paso and the bulk of the inhabitants around El Paso, she ought to be satisfied that the report of the committee should

Mr. RUSK. I do not desire to throw the slightest of port. So far as the State which I have the honor to repro sent is concerned, she will yield more than any other State in is to govern that territ this Union to bring about a compromise. So iar as her representative here is concerned, who now addresses you, be would between Texas and proper by the commanding officer, and no influence was ex-ercised by him, as the record on your table shows. And yet, ercised by him, as the record on your table shows as sides of the chamber appear to concur that the law, as a under these circumstances, they organized themselves into a sides of the chamber appear to concur that the law, as a country, and vote with Texas. And now it is said to be a stands, should continue to be the law governing this subject, and the only difficulty which can exist must be in drawing and the only difficulty which can exist must be in drawing.

as an equivalent as if she had not demanded this. Sir, the matter has been already more discussed than was necessary. I am very sorry a proposition of this kind was made. Of all the topics connected with this arrangement, the one that gave memost trouble and anxiety has been the proper adjustment of this territorial line. I sought most anxiously from day to day to effect it in an amicable manner. I found it impossible to sgree in all respects with the gentlemen who represent tha State of Texas. We took up the subject, acted upon it, proposed a line. I would be willing to take the line in sub-stance presented by the Senator from Illinois, beginning at El Paso, or twenty miles above El Paso, if you please, and running it to the Red river at the 42d degree, throwing off, according to the maps—sithough I know they are not always much to be relied on—nearly two-thirds of what is proposed to be ceded by Texas to the United States, and retaining only the stip of land on the Rio Grande. I would be willing to

in an amicable and satisfactory manner of these great and troublesome questions, that there is scarcely any thing I would not be willing to do; but I repeat that I think it would be better to adhere to the line proposed by the committee.

Mr. FOOTE. I really think that I have some right to complain of my honorable friend from Kentucky, (Mr. Clar,) who seems to be more or less disposed to complain of my amendments having been offered. Why, sir, I have not been specially troublesome on this head; and as the amendments brought forward by me are not of a nature vitally to affect the bill in any of its main features, I think that they might have been received with a little more of that complaisance which been received with a little more of that complain has so happily marked the general demeanor of the honorable great struggle now in progress. I must say that I think it a be urged that the whole plan of adjustment, just as it came from the hands of the Committee of Thirteen, should be adoptd, without any material change whatever.

Mr. CLAY, (in his seat.) Who has insisted upon that?
Mr. FOOTE. I know that the honorable Senator from
Kentucky has heretofore said, as other friends of the bill have constantly declared, that all reasonable amendments were to be received with favor, and adopted, if it should be supposed judicious to do so. Indeed, when the plan of adjustment has judicious to do so. Indeed, when the plan of adjustment has been from time to time assailed, I have constantly insisted that it should not be too unsparingly condemned before a sufficient opportunity should have been enjoyed for improving it by suitable amendments. I have certainly all possible respect for the Committee of Thirteen, but I must say that I deem it at least possible that they may have erred in some material points, and, wishing to make the bill in all respects as perfect as practicable, I must be allowed to suggest deficiencies where I suppose them actually to exist. However, as I have already said, I do not attach any very great importance to the amendments which I have offered; and in a spirit of conciliation and compromise, I have just agreed to take, as a substi-tute for two of them, one which will be presently brought to the notice of the Senate by the honorable Senator from Maryland, (Mr. PRATT,) and another which has just been prepared by the honorable Senator from Illinois, (Mr. Douglas.) The Senate may rest confidently assured that I shall throw no unnecessary obstacles in the way, or exhibit any superabundan

ensciousness on any immaterial point.

Mr. PRATT. I take it for granted, Mr. President, that every member of the Senate has in view the same object——
Mr. CLAY. Will the Senator from Maryland allow me o suggest that the better way would be to vote upon the amendments in succession, and dispose of them.

Mr. PRATT resumed. My only object, sir, is, if I can do so, to offer such an amendment as will be acceptable to both sides of the chamber, in lieu of a portion of the amendnent offered by the Senator from Mississippi.

The amendments under consideration, as proposed by the Senator from Mississippi, embrace two objects. The one is the extent of the territory which is to be ceded by Texas he other relates to the law which is to operate upon the territory so ceded.

The Senator from Illinois (Mr. Douglas) has propos stacles in the way of the passage of this bill. I have great an amendment which I hope will be acceptable to the Senate, anxiety to get it in such a shape that I can give it my sup-

But I desire to say one word in regard to the boundary this Union to bring about a compromise. So far as her representative here is concerned, who now addresses you, he would between Texas and New Mexico, as established by the bill between Texas and New Mexico, as established could bring about harmony, and settle the distracting questions which now agitate the country in such way as to do justice to the rights of all, and stop future agitation. But while I will do this, and while the State of Texas will do it, while I will do this, and while the State of the reast of war. while I will do this, and while the State of Texas will do it, she has acquired, at the cost of blood and by years of war, what she will not surrender to unjust demands, however backed by opposing numbers. Any controversy with the people of Santa Fe would be deprecated by the State of Texas, and by no citizen of that State more than myself. Any collision with the authorities of the Government of the United States, in regard to this question, would be deprecated by the representation of the people of Santa Fe would be deprecated by the State of Interval, and that the desert itself is from ninety to one hundred and twenty miles in breadth, without water in any part of it. Now, it seems to me that this territory lying between the northern boundary of Texas and the state of Interval, and the state of the people of Now, it seems to me that this territory lying between the northern boundary of Texas and Now, it was not the people of Now Mayico as proposed to be established by this bull, mould United States, in regard to this question, would be deprecated; but, sir, I greatly mistake the temper of the people of Texas if they would submit for a single moment to terms of degradation, imposed on them in disregard of the principles of right. I think I make no unreasonable request here. I ask they would be liable to be scalped by Indians. For, while this political controversy is going on here, while objection after objection is thrown in, to the azitation of the country, and political schemes are set on foot, I state here in my place—I have authority for stating it, and it cannot be contradicted on the country for stating it, and it cannot be contradicted to the scalped by the Government of Texas; but if the present boundary is con nued, this objection is thrown in, to the azitation of the country, and political schemes are set on foot, I state here in my place—I have authority for stating it, and it cannot be contradicted on the denied—that the people of Santa Fe are worse protected to the scale of the southern border of the Passage of Death, then the territory in question would b-long to Texas, and its people could be easily protected by the Government of Texas are the morthern boundary of the satisfactory of the scale of the southern border of the Passage of Death, then the territory in question would b-long to Texas, and its people could be easily protected by the Government of New Mexico, as proposed to the statched. If the northern boundary of Texas are textended to the southern border of the Passage of Death, then the territory in question would b-long to Texas, and its people could be easily protected by the Government of Texas, and its people could be easily protected by the Government of Texas, and its people could be easily protected by the Government of Texas, and its people could be easily protected by the Government of Texas, and its people could be easily protected by the Government of Texas, and its people could be easily protected by the Government of Texas, and its people could be easily day, by the arms of the United States, than they were before be practically unprotected by the Government to which they would belong. It does seem to me, Mr. President, that if I these people below the Jornado del Muerto remain with Texas am right in the view I have expressed as to the geography these people below the Jornald set Moerto remain with lexas am right in the view I have expressed as to the geography if they are content? There was no force carried to El Paso to organize them Major Neighbors, and perhaps a companion or two, were all that went to the country of El Paso for that purpose. They were left free to choose as they thought of the desert, so as to include all the inhabitable portion of the

country south of this desert as a part of Texas.

Now, sir, as to the law which is to govern the country, all sides of the chamber appear to concur that the law, as it now twenty miles above El Paso that these people are to be separated from Texas, and Texas is charged with factious opposition if she asks to have the line extended so as to include these people within her territory. I venture to assert that, if you will take away your political missionaries, and withdraw your influences from among the people of Santa Fe, they will quietly organize under the authority of Texas. Any partica-